



Integrating global animal health, public health and tropical animal health issues into the veterinary curriculum: A South African/African perspective

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Abstract:

The globalisation of trade and food, the increased volume and speed of international travel, climate change, and the related escalation of emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases mean that countries are now more interconnected and interdependent than ever before. Africa is beleaguered by a range of endemic infectious and parasitic tropical diseases which, due to its diverse wildlife populations and indigenous livestock, can serve as a reservoir of high-impact or transboundary diseases and play a role in the emergence of disease, particularly at the wildlife, domestic animal and human interfaces. It is therefore essential to integrate animal and public health issues into the veterinary curriculum. Veterinary training in most parts of sub-Saharan Africa has focused on producing veterinarians to serve the livestock sector although socio-economic changes and privatisation of Veterinary Services have caused curriculum adjustments, as have globalisation and the increased risk of the spread of transboundary diseases. In South Africa, undergraduate veterinary training is more clinically oriented than in other regions. Animal and public health issues are covered in the curriculum, although their global relevance is not emphasised. The authors describe the undergraduate veterinary curriculum and summarise post-graduate programmes in South Africa. They also discuss a more comprehensive core-elective approach to the current curriculum and the need to adapt to new challenges facing the profession. Finally, they examine the potential use of innovative technology in undergraduate and post-graduate training and professional development, the importance of regional and international collaboration and the accreditation and recognition of veterinary training.

Source: [http://web.oie.int/boutique/index.php?page=Euro%20Surveillance%20\(Bulletin%20European%20Sur%20Les%20Maladies%20Transmissibles;%20European%20Communicable%20Disease%20Bulletin\)ficprod&id_prc=Euro%20Surveillance%20\(Bulletin%20European%20Sur%20Les%20Maladies%20Transmissibles;%20European%20Communicable%20Disease%20Bulletin\)740&id_produit=Euro%20Surveillance%20\(Bulletin%20European%20Sur%20Les%20Maladies%20Transmissibles;%20European%20Communicable%20Disease%20Bulletin\)883&lang=Euro%20Surveillance%20\(Bulletin%20European%20Sur%20Les%20Maladies%20Transmissibles;%20European%20Communicable%20Disease%20Bulletin\)en&fichrech=Euro%20Surveillance%20\(Bulletin%20European%20Sur%20Les%20Maladies%20Transmissibles;%20European%20Communicable%20Disease%20Bulletin\)1](http://web.oie.int/boutique/index.php?page=Euro%20Surveillance%20(Bulletin%20European%20Sur%20Les%20Maladies%20Transmissibles;%20European%20Communicable%20Disease%20Bulletin)ficprod&id_prc=Euro%20Surveillance%20(Bulletin%20European%20Sur%20Les%20Maladies%20Transmissibles;%20European%20Communicable%20Disease%20Bulletin)740&id_produit=Euro%20Surveillance%20(Bulletin%20European%20Sur%20Les%20Maladies%20Transmissibles;%20European%20Communicable%20Disease%20Bulletin)883&lang=Euro%20Surveillance%20(Bulletin%20European%20Sur%20Les%20Maladies%20Transmissibles;%20European%20Communicable%20Disease%20Bulletin)en&fichrech=Euro%20Surveillance%20(Bulletin%20European%20Sur%20Les%20Maladies%20Transmissibles;%20European%20Communicable%20Disease%20Bulletin)1)

Resource Description

Communication:

resource focus on research or methods on how to communicate or frame issues on climate change; surveys of attitudes, knowledge, beliefs about climate change

A focus of content

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Communication Audience:

audience to whom the resource is directed

Health Professional

Exposure :

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Unspecified Exposure

Geographic Feature:

resource focuses on specific type of geography

Tropical

Geographic Location:

resource focuses on specific location

Non-United States

Non-United States: Africa

African Region/Country: African Region

Other African Region: sub-Saharan Africa

Health Impact:

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Infectious Disease

Infectious Disease: Zoonotic Disease

Zoonotic Disease: General Zoonotic Disease

Medical Community Engagement:

resource focus on how the medical community discusses or acts to address health impacts of climate change

A focus of content

Mitigation/Adaptation:

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Adaptation

Resource Type:

format or standard characteristic of resource

Review

Timescale:

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time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified